

writing means for writing data in a re-writable data carrier attached to a container of a dish or drink;

reading means for reading data in a non-contact state from [a] said re-writable data carrier [of one or more dishes or drinks selected by the customer]; and

calculating means for calculating [a] said charge [for the one or more dishes or drinks] using the read data and displaying the charge.

2. (ONCE AMENDED) A charging system for automatically calculating a charge for a dish or drink selected by a customer, comprising:

input means for inputting data to be used to calculate a charge; and

writing means for writing the data in a re-writable data carrier attached to a container of a dish or drink.

3. (ONCE AMENDED) The charging system according to claim 2, wherein said writing means writes [at least either data] one of a kind and price of the dish or drink in the data carrier.

4. The charging system according to claim 2, further comprising:
measuring means for measuring a weight of the dish or drink, wherein
said writing means writes [at least either data] one of a measured weight and a price corresponding to the measured weight in the data carrier.

5. (ONCE AMENDED) A charging system for automatically calculating a charge for a dish and drink selected by a customer, comprising:

reading means for reading data in a non-contact state from a re-writable data carrier attached to a container of one or more dishes or drinks selected by the customer; and

calculating means for calculating [a] said charge [for the one or more dishes or drinks] using read data.

6. The charging system according to claim 5, wherein
the data carrier is attached to the ~~bottom of the~~ container, and
said reading means reads the data collectively from the data carrier of one or more containers placed on a tray.

7. (ONCE AMENDED) The charging system according to claim 5, wherein
said reading means reads price data of [a] said dish or drink from the data carrier, and
said calculating means adds up the price data of each dish or drink, and calculates the charge for the one or more dishes or drinks.

8. (ONCE AMENDED) The charging system according to claim 5, wherein
said reading means reads [kind] data indicating a kind of [a] said dish or drink from the data carrier, and

said calculating means includes an output means for outputting a kind of the dishes or drinks selected by the customer together with the charge for the dishes or drinks.

9. (ONCE AMENDED) The charging system according to claim 5, further comprising

storing means for storing a correspondence relation between a kind and a price of each dish or drink, wherein

said reading means reads [kind] data indicating a kind of [a] said dish or drink from the data carrier, and

said calculating means obtains price data corresponding to the kind data of each dish or drink referring to the correspondence relation, adds up the price data of each dish or drink, and calculates the charge for the one or more dishes or drinks.

10. (ONCE AMENDED) A container used in an automatic calculation of a charge of a dish or drink selected by a customer, comprising:

means for holding the dish or drink; and

re-writable data carrier means for recording data to be used to calculate the charge.

11. (ONCE AMENDED) A calorie calculating system for automatically calculating calories of a dish or drink selected by a customer, comprising:

reading means for reading data in a non-contact state from a re-writable data carrier attached to a container of one or more dishes or drinks selected by the customer; and

calculating means for calculating calories of the one or more dishes or drinks using read data and displaying the calories.

12. (ONCE AMENDED) A charging system for automatically calculating a charge for goods selected by a customer, comprising:

reading means for reading data in a non-contact state from a re-writable data carrier attached to one or more items of goods selected by the customer; and

calculating means for calculating [a] said charge for the one or more items of goods using read data and displaying the charge.

13. (ONCE AMENDED) The charging system according to claim 12, wherein the one or more items of goods are arranged flatly so that the directions of attached data carriers [may be] are the same, and said reading means reads the data collectively from the data carriers of the one or more goods arranged flatly.

14. (ONCE AMENDED) A computer-readable recording medium encoded with a program for controlling a computer, the program comprising [the functions of]:

inputting data to be used to calculate a charge for a dish or drink selected by a customer; and

writing the data in a re-writable data carrier attached to a container of the dish or drink.

15. (ONCE AMENDED) A computer-readable recording medium encoded with a program for controlling a computer, the program comprising [the functions of]:

reading data in a non-contact state from a re-writable data carrier attached to a container of one or more dishes or drinks selected by a customer;

calculating a charge for the one or more dishes or drinks using read data; and
displaying the charge.

16. (ONCE AMENDED) A charging method for automatically calculating a charge for a dish or drink selected by a customer, comprising [the steps of]:

writing data in a re-writable data carrier attached to a container of a dish or drink;
reading data in a non-contact state from a data carrier of one or more dishes or drinks selected by the customer;

calculating [a] said charge [for the one or more dishes or drinks] using read data; and
displaying [the] said charge.